

From: Scott Tietjen
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Commentary due to the Tunney Act requirements:

I am a Consultant Computer Programmer/Analyst and Data Security Analyst. I have reviewed the proposed settlement with Microsoft, and have read many commentaries on it, and I am shocked that our government and nine states have given in to Microsoft in such an outrageous way. There is no possible chance that Microsoft will change its behavior in any noticeable way with the application of this settlement -- they will in fact be left alone to do what they want, to whomever they want, any time they want, with no controls whatsoever, despite this "review committee" will do or say. This settlement does nothing to stem Microsoft's anti-competitive behavior -- in fact, it provides so many large loopholes that you can drive a truck through them (and, Microsoft will drive many trucks through those loopholes). I will not go into any significant detail -- my other colleagues that have provided commentary that more than do justice to the topic.

In closing, I support the other nine states and their attorneys-general who disagree with the proposed settlement. Their proposals come a lot closer to actually restoring almost reasonable competition to the marketplace, although they are not perfect requirements either. I am of the camp that believes that Microsoft properly needs to be broken up into several smaller companies, that the industry and economy will not be harmed by such a breakup (just like AT&T, the industry will thrive after such a breakup), and that anyone that claims that harm will result from such a breakup is merely parroting Microsoft spin doctors.

-- Scott Tietjen, West Haven, Connecticut

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